

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

DANIEL WHITNEY,

Plaintiff,

v.

WARDEN ALFRED BIGELOW et al.,

Defendants.

MEMORANDUM DECISION &
ORDER DIRECTING SERVICE OF
PROCESS, ANSWER AND/OR
DISPOSITIVE MOTION

Case No. 2:12-CV-235 DB

District Judge Dee Benson

Plaintiff, Daniel Whitney, an inmate at Utah State Prison (USP), filed this *pro se* civil rights suit. See 42 U.S.C.S. § 1983 (2012). Plaintiff was allowed to proceed *in forma pauperis*. See 28 *id.* § 1915.

Based on review of the Second Amended Complaint, the Court concludes that official service of process is warranted. The United States Marshals Service is directed to serve a properly issued summons and a copy of Plaintiff's Complaint, along with this Order, upon the following individuals:

Warden Alfred Bigelow
Chaplain Feland
Lori Worthington
Chuck Hobbs

Once served, Defendants shall respond to the summons in one of the following ways:

(A) If Defendants wish to assert the affirmative defense of Plaintiff's failure to exhaust administrative remedies in a grievance process, Defendants must,

- (i) file an answer, within twenty days of service;
- (ii) within ninety days of filing an answer, prepare and file a *Martínez* report limited to the exhaustion issue¹;
- (iii) within ninety days of filing an answer, file a separate summary judgment motion, with a supporting memorandum; **and**

¹ See [*Martínez v. Aaron*, 570 F.2d 317 \(10th Cir. 1978\)](#) (approving district court's practice of ordering prison administration to prepare report to be included in pleadings in cases when prisoner has filed suit alleging constitutional violation against institution officials).

In [*Gee v. Estes*, 829 F.2d 1005 \(10th Cir. 1987\)](#), the Tenth Circuit explained the nature and function of a *Martínez* report, saying:

Under the *Martínez* procedure, the district judge or a United States magistrate [judge] to whom the matter has been referred will direct prison officials to respond in writing to the various allegations, supporting their response by affidavits and copies of internal disciplinary rules and reports. The purpose of the *Martínez* report is to ascertain whether there is a factual as well as a legal basis for the prisoner's claims. This, of course, will allow the court to dig beneath the conclusional allegations. These reports have proved useful to determine whether the case is so devoid of merit as to warrant dismissal without trial.

Id. at 1007.

(iv) within ninety days of filing an answer, submit a proposed order for dismissing the case based upon Plaintiff's failure to exhaust, in word processing format, to:

utdecf_prisonerlitigationunit@utd.uscourts.gov.

(B) If Defendants choose to challenge the bare allegations of the complaint, Defendants shall, within twenty days of service,

(i) file an answer; or

(ii) file a motion to dismiss based on Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6), and submit a proposed order for dismissing the case, in word processing format, to:
utdecf_prisonerlitigationunit@utd.uscourts.gov.

(C) If Defendants choose not to rely on the defense of failure to exhaust and wish to pierce the allegations of the complaint, Defendants must,

(i) file an answer, within twenty days of service;

(ii) within ninety days of filing an answer, prepare and file a *Martínez* report addressing the substance of the complaint;

(iii) within ninety days of filing an answer, file a separate summary judgment motion, with a supporting memorandum; **and**

(iv) within ninety days of filing an answer, submit a proposed order for dismissing the case based upon the summary judgment motion, in word processing format, to: utdecf_prisonerlitigationunit@utd.uscourts.gov.

Plaintiff is notified that if Defendants move for summary judgment Plaintiff cannot rest upon the mere allegations in the complaint. Instead, as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56(e), to survive a motion for summary judgment Plaintiff must allege specific facts, admissible in evidence, showing that there is a genuine issue remaining for trial.

ORDER

Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that:

(1) The United States Marshals Service shall serve a completed summons, a copy of the Second Amended Complaint, (Docket Entry # 15), and a copy of this Order upon the above-listed defendants.

(2) Within twenty days of being served, Defendants must file an answer or motion to dismiss and proposed order, as outlined above.

(3) If filing (on exhaustion or any other basis) a *Martinez* report **with** a summary judgment motion and proposed order, Defendants must do so within ninety days of filing their answer(s).

(4) If served with a *Martinez* report and a summary judgment motion or motion to dismiss, Plaintiff may file a response within thirty days.

(5) Summary-judgment motion deadline is ninety days from filing of answer.

DATED this 2 day of October, 2012.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dee Benson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Dee" is written with a large, stylized 'D' that loops around the 'e'. The last name "Benson" is written in a more standard cursive script. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

JUDGE DEE BENSON
United States District Court